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Message Text

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70
ORIGIN ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SR-02 L-03 IO-14 SS-20 NSC-07

PRS-01 SCA-01 VO-03 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 SY-04 INSE-00 EUR-25 EA-11 FBIE-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 /117 R

DRAFTED BY S/R:ORM:CCPAPPAS:AVS
APPROVED BY S/R:LAWIESNER
AF/E - G. GAY
AF/S - R. DOLS
L/HR - C. RUNYON (SUBS)
---------- 062535
O 182136Z SEP 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205654

E.O. 11652: GDS (2)
TAGS:CGEN, PINS, SA
SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICANS REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM
REF: DAR ES SALAAM'S 3155

1. APPLICANTS APPEAR TO QUALIFY AS REFUGEES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WHOSE SAFETY AND FREEDOM MAY BE AT RISK IF THEY WERE FORCIBLY RETURNED TO THAT COUNTRY.

2. AS SIGNATORY TO THE CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES, TANZANIA HAS AN OBLIGATION NOT TO FORCIBLY RETURN A REFUGEE TO A COUNTRY WHERE HE FACES A THREAT TO HIS LIFE OR FREEDOM. TANZANIA'S PAST RECORD IN THIS REGARD HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY INFORMATION TO THE CONTRARY, WE ASSUME THAT TANZANIA WILL NOT RETURN
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APPLICANTS TO SOUTH AFRICA EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE LIMITED

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PERIOD IN WHICH TO LEAVE TANZANIA.

3. AS A RESULT, WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROPER AGENCY TO RESETTLE THE APPLICANTS IS THE UNHCR. WE WOULD ASSUME THAT THE UNHCR CAN RESETTLE THEM IN AN AFRICAN STATE. INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES, WE FEEL, HAVE THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARING FOR REFUGEES FROM SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. FYI: WE HAVE INVESTIGATED VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES FOR U.S. ENTRY INCLUDING POSSIBLE SCHOLARSHIPS. ARRANGEMENTS

FOR POSSIBLE SCHOLARSHIPS WITH AA1 WILL REQUIRE TIME TO PREPARE AND RE-ENTRY PERMITS INTO COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT. ALL APPLICANTS ARE UNLIKELY TO QUALIFY FOR THE LABOR CERTIFICATION FOR IMMIGRANT VISA PURPOSES. THEREFORE, PAROLE APPEARS TO BE ONLY AVAILABLE MEANS FOR ENTRY. THIS REQUIRES CONCURRENCE OF IMMIGRATION SERVICE WHICH HAS BEEN EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO AUTHORIZE PAROLE UNLESS THERE APPEARS TO BE IMMINENT DANGER OF RETURN TO A COUNTRY WHERE THE APPLICANTS WOULD FACE PERSECUTION AND WHERE A FOREIGN POLICY JUSTIFICATION EXISTS. END FYI.

5. EMBASSY SHOULD THEREFORE REFER APPLICANTS TO UNHCR.

6. THE POSSIBILITY THAT UNHCR MAY HAVE MAJOR DIFFICULTIES IN RELOCATING APPLICANTS AND THAT WE MIGHT WISH TO ASSIST UNHCR IN SOME APPROPRIATE WAY CANNOT BE EXCLUDED COMPLETELY. CONSEQUENTLY IN ORDER THAT WE MAY BE PREPARED TO ATTEMPT TO ASSIST, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION ON APPLICANTS AND KEEP US INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THESE CASES. KISSINGER

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